

# ***ALASKA TRIBAL-STATE FORUM ON SAFETY AND JUSTICE***

## **REPORT**



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### **Presented by the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

In partnership with the Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Department of Law, Alaska Court System, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and the Alaska Native Justice Center.

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# Tribal-State Forum on Safety and Justice Agenda

Aspen Hotel  
Soldotna, Alaska  
August 27-28, 2007

## MONDAY

8:00-8:30 *Registration*

8:30-9:00 *Welcome, Announcements and Introductions*

9:00-10:00 **Domestic Violence Overview**

Barbara Waters, Education and Training Coordinator, LeeShore Center, Kenai

*Break (5 minutes)*

10:05-11:05 **Choices: Civil and Criminal Legal Remedies**

Kari Robinson and Andrea Browning, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project, Katie TePas, Program Coordinator, Alaska State Troopers

*Break (10 minutes)*

11:15-12:30 **Practical Skills For Advocacy and Safety Planning**

Patti Bland, Director, Train the Trainer Project, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Christine King, Project Coordinator Center for Human Development – UAA and Barbara Waters LeeShore Center, Kenai

12:30-1:30 *Lunch*

1:30-3:00 **Practical Skills For Advocacy and Safety Planning (continued)**

*Break (15 minutes)*

3:15-4:30 **Legal Advocacy and Confidentiality**

Kari Robinson and Andrea Browning, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project

4:30-5:00 **Questions and Answers**

Moderator, Katie TePas, Program Coordinator, Alaska State Troopers

## TUESDAY

8:15-8:30 *Registration*

8:30-9:30 **Advocating for People with Substance Use Issues**  
Patti Bland, Director, Train the Trainer Project, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

9:30-10:30 **Plead, Dismiss or Trial – Prosecutorial Decision-Making**  
Angela Jamieson, Assistant District Attorney, Kenai District Attorney's Office

*Break (10 minutes)*

10:40 -11:25 **Victim's Rights and Victim/Witness Paralegals**  
Debra Eisele, Victim/Witness Paralegal, Kenai District Attorney's Office

*Break (5 minutes)*

11:30-12:15 **Alaska Native Justice**  
Denise Morris, President and CEO and Julia Meier, Special Projects Coordinator, Alaska Native Justice Center

12:15-1:15 *Lunch*

1:15-2:15 **The Role of the Courts - Protection Orders, Victim Impact Statements and Sentencing**  
Honorable Natalie Finn, Retired, Alaska Court System

*Break (10 minutes)*

2:25-2:55 **Justice System Panel – Questions and Answers**  
Angela Jamieson, Debra Eisele, Natalie Finn, Katie TePas, Kari Robinson, Mary Elam

*Break (5 minutes)*

3:00-4:30 **Community Organizing for Safety**  
Peg Coleman, Executive Director, South Peninsula Haven House, Homer

4:30- 4:50 **Conclusion and Evaluations**

4:50-5:30 **Closing Ceremony – Heartbeat of Mother Earth** drum group

## Participants



## Participants

Twenty-eight (28) participants attended the two-day training held at the Aspen Hotel in Soldotna. Thirteen (13) of the participants traveled to Soldotna from six (6) small communities in the Southcentral region, Copper Center, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Seward, Valdez and the island community of Kodiak. Ten (10) of the participants lived in the Kenai-Soldotna area. Five (5) participants from Palmer, Wasilla and Anchorage community domestic violence or tribal programs also attended.

Anchorage (3)	Palmer (1)
Copper Center (2)	Seward (1)
Kenai (8)	Soldotna (2)
Kodiak (3)	Valdez (3)
Nanwalek (3)	Wasilla (1)
Ninilchik (1)	

Participants included:

Batterer Intervention Program Staff (1)

Tribal Court personnel (2)

Health professionals (3)

Mental Health professionals (1)

Social Service Organization Staff (3)

Tribal government/Tribal government agency staff (5)

Victim advocates (12)

Other: Tribal Housing Manager (1)



## Presentations



Barbara Waters, Education and Training Coordinator at the LeeShore Center in Kenai gives an overview of domestic violence.



Kari Robinson ANDVSA Legal Advocacy Project Director and Katie TePas, Alaska State Troopers' Program Coordinator, provide information and answer questions about protection orders and other civil remedies.





Patti Bland, Director of the ANDVSA Train the Trainer Project (left) and Christine King, Project Coordinator at the Center for Human Development at UAA (below), build skills in advocacy and safety planning for victims, including those victims with disabilities or substance abuse issues.



Kari Robinson (left) and Andrea Browning (right) of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault's, Legal Advocacy Project train participants in confidentiality and legal advocacy for victims.



Angela Jamieson, (left) Assistant District Attorney and Debra Eisele, (right) Victim/Witness Paralegal at the Kenai District Attorney's Office educate participants about prosecutorial decision-making and victims' rights.



Julia Meier, Special Projects Coordinator (left) and Denise Morris, CEO/President (right) of the Alaska Native Justice Center provide information on full faith and credit and tribal court responses to domestic violence.



Honorable Natalie Finn, (below) District Court Judge (Retired), of the Alaska Court System provides public education on the role of the State courts.





Patti Bland, (left) Director of ANDVSA's Train the Trainer Project and Peg Coleman, (right) Executive Director of South Peninsula Haven House in Homer share tips on working together to end violence through community organizing.



The Kenaitze Indian Tribe Heartbeat of Mother Earth drum group provides a closing ceremony.

## **Faculty/Staff**

Sixteen (16) faculty and staff participated in or presented at the forum.

Christine Ashenbrenner, Executive Director, Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Patricia Bland, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Director, Train the Trainer Project

Andrea Browning, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project Coordinator

Margaret Coleman, South Peninsula Haven House, Executive Director

Debra Eisele, Victim/Witness Paralegal, Kenai District Attorney's Office

Honorable Natalie Finn, Alaska Court System, District Court Judge (Retired)

Sherrie Goll, Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Project Coordinator

Jo Griggs, Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Business Manager

Angela Jamieson, Kenai District Attorney's Office, Assistant District Attorney

Christine King, Center for Human Development – UAA, Project Coordinator

Julia Meier, Alaska Native Justice Center, Special Projects Coordinator

Denise Morris, Alaska Native Justice Center, President/CEO

Kari Robinson Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project Director

Cathy Satterfield, Department of Law, Statewide Victim-Witness Program Coordinator

Katie TePas, Alaska State Troopers, Program Coordinator

Barbara Waters, LeeShore Center, Kenai, Education and Training Coordinator

# Training Content Areas

## **Domestic Violence and Victim Advocacy**

Advocate response  
Confidentiality and legal advocacy  
Domestic violence overview, dynamics, services  
Mandatory reporting requirements  
Safety planning for victims/survivors  
Sexual assault overview  
Stalking overview

## **Justice System**

Civil court procedures  
Criminal court procedures  
Decreasing dual arrests/ID of primary aggressor  
Domestic violence statutes and codes  
Law enforcement response  
Judicial Response  
Pro-arrest policies  
Prosecution response  
Protection orders (including full faith and credit)  
Sexual assault statutes and codes  
Stalking statutes and codes  
Tribal jurisdiction and PL 280

## **Community Response**

Community organizing for safety

## **Underserved Populations**

Issues specific to victims/survivors who:

- live in rural areas
- are Alaska Natives
- have substance abuse or mental health problems
- are elderly or have a disability

## **Community Resources**

### **WHAT COMMUNITY RESOURCES PROMOTE SAFETY AND JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**

#### **ANCHORAGE**

Decent relationship with law enforcement – open communication with APD  
Faith based organizations are attending more training opportunities  
Functioning SART  
Great relationship with DA's office  
Interagency/sister agency collaboration

#### **COPPER CENTER**

Active Tribal Council  
CAC Child Advocacy Center in the area for all people within a year  
Culture Camp  
Hudson Lake Healing Camp (Drug/Alcohol Rehab)  
Monthly Elders Meeting  
Rural legal advocate program  
Rural Providers camp

#### **KENAI**

CAC – Child Advocacy center (initiated youth to come together to learn about substance abuse and writing grants for peer mentoring)  
CASA  
Childcare assistance  
Circle of Justice  
Clinic  
Community survey 2-3 years  
Community education on strangulation, substance abuse (Meth)  
Dancers  
Diabetes Prevention  
Drumming  
Dr. Shoemaker – BIP  
Early Learning Program  
Education  
Educational fishing  
Educational moose hunt  
Elders Program  
Emergency funds  
Having this training in this community  
Head Start, In-home Start  
Health Club  
Homer-Kenai relationships  
ICWA  
In-Home family preservation services  
Inter-agency wrap around services

Judges, clerks of court, OCS okay  
Kenaitze Violence Against Native Women grant  
KPD, SPD, AST  
Legal advocate at the courthouse  
NYO  
Reached out to GAL, OCS,PD,DAs  
SART program  
Summer Camps (Fish, Archeological)  
Swimming  
Tribal Court  
Wellness Warrior's Initiative  
Woodcarving craft class  
Work well with Borough and City  
Working well with DA's office  
Work well with housing, Native and Federal  
Working with Immigrant Women Project  
Working with the school system  
10X better relationship with community than when doors opened.

#### KODIAK

Chemical Dependency program is revolving/cycles 8-12 weeks  
CD after care 8-12 weeks  
Great Housing Authority  
Kodiak Community Human Services Meeting – every 3 months  
Meet basic needs then provide treatment  
Recidivism in Native population down  
Work together with community services to share information on resources, write grants for services needed  
3 levels of treatment – same building – lots of advocacy, medical, social, dental

#### MAT-SU

Doing training together with agencies  
Mascot Bus  
Men holding men accountable flags  
Mental Health Court  
Oxford House Project for men.  
Presentations on DV and its effects to community groups and schools  
State Troopers trained there - do tours through shelter  
Teen Anger Management

#### NANWALEK

Alcohol Awareness Program (fishing, berry-picking, paddle boating) Open to all ages  
Baseball League/Gym  
Council Justice Committee  
Dancers in community  
Luncheon for elders  
Fun in the Sun



Mentoring kid's language skills  
Sending women to shelter in Homer.  
Summer youth programs

#### SEWARD

Outreach – pastor  
Relationship with providers, troopers, court, OCS

#### VALDEZ

Family Violence CC meetings interface with youth awareness coalition - all working toward coordinated community response, improved direct service agency  
Interaction with and providing balanced support for community needs program in and after school  
Monthly Community Care Providers meetings  
Solid communication and training partnership with Valdez Police Department and AST

#### WHAT DOES YOUR COMMUNITY NEED TO INCREASE SAFETY?

Detox center  
Emergency services for people with mental health issues  
Less victims  
Less Perps  
Local SART  
More Programming for Teens  
More Regular Housing  
More Money  
More Time  
More Staff  
More volunteers  
More men vocal in our community speaking out against family violence  
Safe Homes